

FOREIGN GOSSIP.

In 1889 Russian peasants killed or captured 318 bears, 85 wolves, 503 foxes, 14,834 hares, 71,960 squirrels, 539 martens, etc.

France receives a yearly revenue of over \$50,000,000 from its monopoly of the sale of tobacco. About two pounds per inhabitant are consumed yearly there.

The people of Truckee complain that they have had no summer this year. Owing to the surrounding snow banks they might as well be living in a refrigerator.

The telephone has played an important part in the maneuvers of the Swedish fleet. There is a telephonic post on board each vessel, and when lying at anchor they can telephone to one another by means of insulated conductors, which are run down the anchor chains and submerged.

The postal savings banks of Japan, which for several years received but little attention from the people, have become a great success. They were established in 1875, but at the end of the year had only \$15,329 on deposit. In 1882, however, it amounted to \$1,055,000, and in 1889 to \$20,450,000.

A town in England, Skiddaw, Cumberland, stands unique as a township of one house and one solitary male adult inhabitant. This man is deprived of his vote because of the fact that there are no overagers to make out a voter's list, and no church or public building on which to publish one, if made.

The Pato de la Alberca, in which the fire at the Alhambra originated, was a superb court, set in the center with an immense basin, in which the Sultan of years ago were wont to bathe and frolic in the perfumed water that filled it. The court was about 140 by 70, and almost completely surrounded by green, glossy hedges of myrtles, which has led to its being sometimes known as the Court of the Myrtles.

The oldest law-suit ever known is now in progress of trial in the highest Russian court in St. Petersburg. Originally it was brought five hundred years ago against the city of Kamensk-Podolsk, by the heirs of a nobleman, to recover several thousand acres of his estate which had been confiscated by the municipality. The testimony in the case is weighty; there are forty-five tons of it in manuscript.

It would seem that romantic lovers are still to be found on the banks of the Hooghly, says the Times of India. In a village called Tangali another case of "Villikins and His Dinah" was enacted a few days ago. A young Calcutta graduate, on being disinherited by his father for marrying a lady of the reformed class against his father's wishes, agreed with his "dearly beloved" to put an end to their existence by opium poison. They bade adieu to each other and swallowed opium. The lady died the next morning; "the young graduate revived," it is said, under the influence of a stomach pump and other medical aid and is living now after paying a penalty of 40 rupees for his "rash" act.

Mr. W. Sowerby writes from the Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, London, that fresh water medusa has again appeared in the Victoria tank there. It first became known through appearing in that tank in 1880, and since then it has remained a mystery, for, though appearing in the one spot in thousands for a few summer months yearly, it has not been found or known in any other part of the world. Last autumn the original tank was broken up, the ground cleared, and a new tank and house built, both nearly double the size of the old ones, and as the medusa did not appear in the old tank during 1889, it was thought that it had come; but, on July 30, numbers of full grown individuals were seen in the new tank, swimming about as if quite at home.

THE FORTH BRIDGE.

The Grandest and Most Wonderful Construction of This Century.

Of all the monuments of this century, the stupendous bridge across the Forth, in Scotland, is the grandest and most surprising construction. The Forth is a wide estuary, so deeply indenting the eastern coast of Scotland as to necessitate an expensive and tedious transshipment of commerce across the gulf, or a long detour around it. For twenty-five years efforts have been made to obtain a permanent way over the estuary, but the difficulties to be encountered were so great that it is only within the last half of the past decade that engineering genius and mechanical skill have been sufficiently developed to render this greatest of metal structures a possibility.

A few miles west of Edinburgh the frith, or gulf, suddenly contracts, leading in ancient times to the establishment of a ferry between Fife on the north and the town of Queensferry on the south. The estuary here is a little less than a mile and a half wide, and very opportunely a small rocky islet exists almost in the center, which, formerly the home of a horde of pirates, now becomes the central pier of the great bridge.

Curiously, also, that part of the gulf lying between Queensferry and Fife contains the only rock to be found for miles above the mouth, thus marking the one appropriate place where adequate foundations for so mammoth a structure can be obtained. Between the little island and either shore extends a space of nearly half a mile, where no foundation was feasible, and which, therefore, must be crossed without a single pier, thus outspanning by several hundred feet all existing bridges.

Serious gales sweeping through the estuary exert on the surface of so exposed a structure an enormous force, and to avoid a parallel catastrophe to that engulfing the unfortunate Tay bridge the most skillful engineering has been exercised. As the bridge runs nearly north and south, in the morning the east side, and in the afternoon on the west side, is exposed directly to the rage of the sun, while the corresponding opposite sides are in the cool shadow. As a result, temperature strains are introduced, causing the whole mass

to wriggle and twist to a considerable degree. In so large a metal mass effects of temperature must be carefully provided for, lest its insidious operation shall lead to destruction.

Commencing at Queensferry on the south, the approaches of the bridge, consisting of ten short girders of 103 feet span, extend over the low shores to the first great cantilever. From the main abutment the entire frith is crossed by three immense trusses forming two central spans, each 1,710 feet in the clear, with two side spans of 690 feet.

The trusses are balanced upon their foundations, and the weight of a passing train transmitted through them is resisted as an upward pull by the anchorages on either side of the gulf. The cantilever bridge poses a very marked advantage in the ease with which it may be erected; for this very balancing on its foundations enables the engineer to build out over the water simultaneously in both directions, using the truss work of the bridge as the scaffold on which to erect additional pieces as fast as it is completed. By this means the expenses of enormous underpinning supports, which would have been enormous in the case now under consideration, where the depth of water in the gulf is over 200 feet, is entirely avoided.

The railway track crosses the bridge at the height of 150 feet above the water, giving ample head-room for vessels of all descriptions beneath the rails; while above the track the huge trusses tower upward more than 200 additional feet. To withstand the violent gales of the Forth, the bridge has been proportioned to resist a wind pressure of about 8,000 tons, and in the structure itself nearly 60,000 tons of steel have been employed. At one time the weight of trains on the bridge would not exceed 2,000 tons, so that, curiously enough, the weight of the structure itself is thirty times that of the load which it is intended to carry, while the wind pressures are at least four times as great.—Leslie's Popular Monthly.

THE MYSTERIOUS GUEST.

How Mr. Jenks Suspected a Reporter Not Familiar with City Ways.

A young reporter, who had come to New York from a Western town and was not accustomed to the ways of the metropolis, was assigned, as his first piece of work, to report the funeral of a wealthy but not exceedingly prominent man, who lived up town in a lavishly furnished house. He found the house jammed to the doors with people and was unable, without making a nuisance of himself, to make his way any further into the crowd than the newel post of the great mahogany stairway. His editor had warned him of the necessity of getting a large number of the names of those who were present and of the enormity of the crime of having even one of them incorrectly spelled. But here the raw reporter was, hemmed in immovably on all sides by people who looked horrified if he ventured to address them. He asked several of them for their names, but they either refused to give them or failed to understand what he wanted them for.

"These people can't amount to much, any way," he said to himself, "or they would show a little more familiarity with the ordeal of giving their names for publication;" so he cast his eyes around for some person of seeming importance. He soon spied a distinguished-looking man, faultlessly dressed, with a military carriage and of aristocratic appearance. He replied to the reporter's rather timid questions courteously, gave the names of a number of people of some importance whom he could see from where he stood or had noticed entering the house. His patience even outlasted the reporter's impatience, and the latter decided that the man was a trump of the most thoroughgoing kind.

Finally the reporter said: "And your own name, sir?"

"Oh, never mind me," was the reply. "You don't want my name!"

This was a disappointment, and the reporter's face showed it. "I should like to have it most of all," he replied.

"Well," said the man, "I'm J. B. Jenks, of the Metropolitan Police Force."

The reporter was a little staggered, but he thought to himself: "An inspector, I dare say, or a captain at least," and aided aloud: "What title? Cap—"

"No," said the officer, with a quiet smile, "plain patrolman. I see you're surprised. Didn't think a policeman could look so much like a gentleman, eh?"

"Not at all," replied the reporter quickly. "I only wondered why you were here. Relative of the dead man?"

"No such luck!"

"Friend of the family?"

"Altogether too swell for my blood."

"What are you doing then among a household of such eminently respectable men as these?"

"Watching to see that none of them steal the brass-band."

"Come off, old man, you're trying to kid me!"

"Fact!" and the officer turned away to scan with piercing looks a gentlemanly-looking old man who was making his way out of the house with tears in his eyes.—N. Y. Tribune.

A Fine New England Tree.

The grandest sycamore tree in New England, perhaps, is at Newton, in Connecticut. It is 85 feet high, 21 feet in circumference, and the crown casts a shade 100 feet in diameter. The foliage is so dense it is impossible to discern a ray of light falling through it, and twilight reigns all the summer beneath it. The leaves are five inches long, about four inches wide, and are of a beautiful, glossy hue. When the wind rustles, the leaves the sound they make is like that of falling rain. The blossoms are large and like silk floss, and, falling, cover the ground inches deep with an elastic robe that is like a wonderful snow-white silken carpet. The great tree is a landmark in all the region, and is visible to a person on the hilltop miles away, a vast dark pillar, overtopping all other trees.—Cor. N. Y. Sun

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Offers Free Sites to Substantial Industries.

It possesses advantages in location, water-power, railroad facilities, and mineral resources that commend it specially to those looking for manufacturing sites. Already a town of 3,000 inhabitants, with more than \$2,000,000 worth of industries established, it has passed the expectant period, and is now an established town, with the promise of 25,000 inhabitants in a few years.

The Following is a List of the Industries Secured and in Operation

Iron Furnace (completed), \$300,000; Pulp and Paper Mills (in operation), \$100,000; Saddle and Harness Factory (in operation), \$10,000; Fine Brick Works (in course of construction), \$100,000; Steam Tannery (in operation), \$100,000; Planing Mills and Lumber Yards (in operation), \$20,000; Furniture and Chair Factory (in operation), \$10,000; Red Brick Works (in operation), \$30,000; Wire Wagon Works (in operation), \$25,000; Wire Fence Factory (in operation), \$10,000; Woolen Mills (completed), \$70,000; Electric Light Plant (in operation), \$10,000; First National Bank of Buena Vista (in operation), \$50,000; Buena Vista Building and Investment Co. Bankers, \$31,000; Buena Vista Building and Improvement Co., \$50,000; Buena Vista Advocate and Job Office (in operation), \$5,000; Egg Crate Factory (completed), \$50,000; Lexington Investment Co. (in operation), \$100,000; Virginia Real Estate Improvement Co. (in operation), \$100,000; Three Livery Stables (in operation), \$10,000; Engine & Boiler Plant (building), \$300,000; Basic Steel Works (organized), \$300,000; Sash, Door & Blind Factory, \$50,000; Planing Mills & Wood Working Establishment, \$100,000; Glass Works (organized), \$200,000. Total \$2,211,000. For particulars, address A. T. BARCLAY, President. J. D. ANDERSON, Secretary.

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The above houses offer superior accommodations to the traveling public. Sample rooms for commercial men.
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Statement, October 31, 1890.

RESOURCES.	LIABILITIES.
Loans and discounts.....\$225,097 31	Capital.....\$250,000 00
Stocks.....223,265 00	Undivided profits and gross earnings.....127,985 15
Real estate.....13,500 00	Deposits on certificate.....95,684 73
Furniture.....600 00	Deposits on check.....167,450 02
Cash on hand and in banks.....115,503 33	Bills payable.....5,058 33
Expenses and taxes.....2,887 62	Redeemable.....34,735 23
\$680,913 46	\$680,913 46

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Nov2-17

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Apr5-6m

A BOOMING TOWN
WYTHEVILLE

Advances in the race of progress. Called the Saratoga of the South. Industries nearing completion and contemplated. Its churches and schools. The scenery surrounding magnificent.

Wytheville's boom is attracting the attention of the country.

Wytheville is noted for its blue grass and fine herds and rich agricultural area. It embodies the mountain scenery and climate and fine mineral waters of Asheville, N. C., with iron and coal vastly superior to Birmingham. In the midst of an agricultural soil universally superior to either. Located upon the Norfolk and Western railroad, half way between Roanoke and Bristol, the former of which is situated upon the eastern border and the latter the western border of the great upland mineral basin known as Southwest Virginia. The proposed Virginia and Kentucky railroad, on which work will begin soon, crosses the Norfolk and Western at this point. The Parkersburg, Little Kanawha and Virginia railway has also decided to build the proposed connecting link between the Black Diamond system and the Cape Fear and Yadkin Valley via Wytheville, making Wytheville a competing railway centre. These lines will bring the Gossan ores of Carroll, the mountain ores of Bland and the ironstones of Gripple Creek and New River and the coal fields of Wythe, Bland and the Flat Top together at Wytheville, making it the great iron and trade centre of Southwest Virginia.

New factories and industries are being located every week, among which are two hotels costing \$20,000 each. Steel Range and Stove Factory \$125,000, while applications for sites are constantly coming in. The Wytheville Manufacturing Company, organized with a dozen hands a few months ago, engaging in the building business, has increased its force to 75 hands, with twelve months' work ahead engaged, and will now increase their force to 150 hands. Streets are being graded everywhere, rail sidings for factories, while every movement goes to indicate that the place will be the growing industrial town of 1891. The Wytheville Development Company, the pioneer mover in the good work, owing 775 acres of land, had its first sale of lots from its choice property, beginning September 30th, when all the lots offered were soon taken up, and to meet a growing demand for purchasers 300 more lots will be offered December 17th and 18th, intrinsically considered as valuable perhaps as that of any company being offered in Virginia, yet at prices extremely reasonable, which it is earnestly hoped will encourage actual settlers rather than lot speculation.

WM. E. BAKER. WM. H. MARKLEY.

BAKER & MARKLEY,

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city property, ft. as and mineral lands sold. Correspondence solicited.

When an advertiser wants quantity instead of quality he uses a bill board.

TRUSTEE'S SALE.

By virtue of a deed of trust executed to me as trustee by S. D. Ferguson, dated the 7th of December, 1888, and of record in the clerk's office of the Hustings Court of the city of Roanoke, Va., in deed book 18, p. 247, to secure to Herman Cruger and E. H. Stewart the payment of the sum of \$2,000, due and payable in two equal annual payments in one and two years after date, respectively, as evidenced by two negotiable notes drawn by the said S. D. Ferguson and payable to the said Herman Cruger and E. H. Stewart. Default having been made in the payment of the last of said notes, at the request of the Roanoke Trust, Loan and Safe Deposit Company, the holder thereof, I shall sell to the highest bidder by public auction, in front of the courthouse in Roanoke city, on Thursday, January 29th, 1891, at 12 m., that certain lot of land lying in Roanoke, Va., and bounded as follows, to-wit: Beginning at a point on the N. E. corner of Pine and Commerce streets, thence with Commerce street N. 6 minutes W. 213 1/2 feet to an alley, thence with same 88 degrees 15 minutes E. 145 1/2 feet to an alley, thence with latter alley S. 4 degrees 30 minutes E. 223 1/2 feet to Pine street, thence N. 88 degrees 15 minutes W. 140 1/2 feet to the beginning, it being the same lot conveyed to said S. D. Ferguson by said Herman Cruger and E. H. Stewart by deed bearing even date with said deed of trust.

Terms: Cash enough to pay the costs of sale as provided for in said trust deed and to pay off said last mentioned note with interest to date of sale in equal installments of one and two years with interest from date of sale, secured by deed of trust upon the property.

ROY B. SMITH, Trustee.
The payment of the above mentioned note of Mr. S. D. Ferguson was assumed by the purchaser from him of the above described property as part of the purchase price.

ROY B. SMITH.

dec30-1m

TRUSTEE'S SALE.

By virtue of a deed of trust executed to me as trustee by A. Z. Koerner and W. F. Baker, dated 17th day of November, 1888, and of record in the clerk's office of the Hustings Court for Roanoke City, Va., deed book 17 page 146, to secure to E. W. Sykes and Ellen Sykes the payment of the sum of \$3,333.33, as evidenced by two negotiable notes of \$1,666.66 each, due in one and two years from November 17th, 1888, with interest. Default having been made in the payment of the last of said notes, at the request of the said beneficiary, I shall sell to the highest bidder, by public auction, in front of the courthouse in Roanoke city, on SATURDAY, JANUARY 12th, 1891, at 12 M., that certain lot of land lying in Roanoke, Va., bounded as follows, to-wit:

"Beginning at a corner to George P. Taylor's lot on the north side of Salem avenue, thence north 17 1/2 feet to an alley, thence east with said alley 50 feet to the lot of P. F. Van Miller, thence south with Van Miller's line 170 1/2 feet to Salem avenue, thence with Salem avenue west 50 feet to the beginning, which lot of land embraces two lots, each fronting on Salem avenue 35 feet, it being the same lot conveyed by E. W. and Ellen Sykes to A. Z. Koerner and W. F. Baker, by deed bearing even date with this deed."

TERMS: Cash enough to pay off said note and interest, and the costs of executing this trust; the balance in one and two years, secured by a deed of trust.

JOHN E. PENN, Trustee.

December 5th, 1890. dec5-24awtojan10.